

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL ENGINEERS**  
**LOCAL UNION 17, SECTION MANAGERS**  
**AND**  
**KING COUNTY**

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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL ENGINEERS,**  
**LOCAL UNION 17, SECTION MANAGERS**  
**AND**  
**KING COUNTY**

These Articles constitute an agreement between King County (“County”) and the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, Local 17 (“Union”). This Agreement shall be subject to approval by Ordinance by the Metropolitan King County Council (“Council”).

**ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE AND DEFINITION**

**1.1 Purpose** - The intent and purpose of this Agreement is to promote the continued improvement of the relationship between the County and its employees and to set forth the wages, hours and working conditions of such employees.

**1.2 Definitions** - All words under this Agreement shall have their ordinary and usual meaning except those words that have been defined under KCC 3.12, as amended, or which are specifically defined in this Agreement.

**1.3 Labor-Management Committee:** The parties shall convene a bargaining unit wide Labor-Management Committee meeting whenever they jointly agree that such a meeting is desirable.

1 **ARTICLE 2: UNION RECOGNITION AND MEMBERSHIP**

2 **2.1 Recognition** - The County recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining  
3 representative of all employees whose job classifications are listed in the attached Addendum "A".

4 **2.2 Membership** - It shall be a condition of employment that all employees covered by this  
5 Agreement who are members of the Union in good standing on the effective date of this Agreement  
6 shall remain members in good standing or pay an agency fee to the Union in lieu of membership, and  
7 those who are not members of the Union on the effective date of this Agreement, shall become and  
8 remain members in good standing or pay an agency fee to the Union in lieu of membership. It shall  
9 also be a condition of employment that all employees covered by this Agreement and hired or  
10 assigned into the bargaining unit on or after its effective date shall, by the thirtieth (30th) day  
11 following the beginning of such employment, become and remain members in good standing or pay  
12 an agency fee to the Union in lieu of membership.

13 **2.2.1** An employee who can substantiate, in accordance with existing law, bona fide religious  
14 tenets or beliefs that prohibit the payment of dues or initiation fees to union organizations shall pay  
15 an amount of money equivalent to regular union dues and initiation fee to a non-religious charitable  
16 organization mutually agreed upon by the employee affected and the Union to which such employee  
17 would otherwise pay the dues and initiation fee. If the employee and the Union do not reach  
18 agreement on such matter, the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) shall designate the  
19 charitable organization. The employee shall furnish written proof that such payment has been made.

20 **2.2.2** Failure by an employee to abide by the above provisions shall constitute cause for  
21 discharge of such employee; provided, that when an employee fails to fulfill the above obligation, the  
22 Union shall provide the employee and the County with thirty (30) days written notification of the  
23 Union's intent to initiate discharge action, and during this period the employee may make restitution  
24 in the amount which is overdue.

25 **2.3 Dues Deduction** - Upon receipt of written authorization individually signed by a  
26 bargaining unit employee, the County shall have deducted from the pay of such employee the amount  
27 of dues as certified by the secretary of the Union and shall transmit the same to its treasurer.

28 **2.4 Indemnification** - The Union will indemnify and hold the County harmless against any

1 claims made and against any suit instituted against the County on account of any check-off of dues  
2 for the Union. The Union agrees to refund to the County any amounts paid to it in error on account  
3 of the check-off provision upon presentation of proper evidence thereof.

4 **2.5 Employee List** - The County will transmit to the Union, upon request, a current listing of  
5 all employees in the bargaining unit. Such list shall indicate the name of the employee, position, job  
6 classification, department and/or unit.

1 **ARTICLE 3: RIGHTS OF MANAGEMENT AND WAIVER CLAUSE**

2       **3.1 Rights of Management** - The management of the County and the direction of the work  
3 force is vested exclusively in the County, except as may be limited by the express written terms of  
4 this Agreement. All matters, including but not limited to, the right to hire, appoint, promote,  
5 discipline and discharge regular employees for cause, improve efficiency, train, assign and direct the  
6 work force, develop and modify classification specifications, allocate positions to those  
7 classifications, determine work schedules, determine location of facilities, contracting out of work,  
8 and determine methods, processes and means for providing services, may be administered for its  
9 duration by the County in accordance with such policy or procedures as from time to time may be  
10 determined. The County agrees not to contract out work historically performed by members of the  
11 bargaining unit if the contracting of such work eliminates or reduces the normal workload of the  
12 bargaining unit. If in order to secure funding for a specific project the County is required to contract  
13 all or part of the work to be performed due to limitations imposed by the funding agreement, said  
14 contracting shall not be considered a violation of this Article as long as it does not eliminate or  
15 reduce the normal workload of the bargaining unit. The County agrees to provide the Union, upon  
16 request, with documentation to support any contracting of work under the terms of this section.

17       **3.2 Waiver Clause** - The parties acknowledge that each has had the unlimited right within  
18 the law and the opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any matter deemed a  
19 proper subject for collective bargaining. The results of this exercise of that right and opportunity are  
20 set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, unless otherwise mutually agreed, the County and the Union,  
21 for the duration of this Agreement, each agree to waive the right to oblige the other party to bargain  
22 with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 4: HOLIDAYS**

**4.1 Holidays** - Regular, probationary, provisional and term-limited temporary employees shall be granted the following holidays with no loss of pay:

<b>HOLIDAYS</b>	
New Year's Day	January 1st
Martin Luther King, Jr., Day	Third Monday in January
Presidents' Day	Third Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Veteran's Day	November 11th
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November
Day after Thanksgiving	
Christmas Day	December 25th
Two (2) Personal Holidays	

and any special or limited holidays as declared by the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Washington, and as approved by the Council.

**4.2 Day of Observance** - For holidays falling on a Saturday, the Friday before shall be observed as the holiday. For holidays falling on a Sunday, the Monday following shall be observed as the holiday.

**4.3 Personal Holidays** - Personal holidays shall be administered through the vacation plan. One (1) day shall be available for use on the first of October and one (1) day on the first of November of each year. These days shall be used in the same manner as any vacation day earned.

## **ARTICLE 5: VACATIONS**

**5.1 Accrual** - Regular, probationary, provisional and term-limited temporary employees shall be eligible for vacation leave benefits as described in this Article except in those instances expressly provided:

Full Years of Service		Equivalent/Pro-Rated Annual Leave in Days
Upon hire through end of Year	5	12
Upon beginning of Year	6	15
Upon beginning of Year	9	16
Upon beginning of Year	11	20
Upon beginning of Year	17	21
Upon beginning of Year	18	22
Upon beginning of Year	19	23
Upon beginning of Year	20	24
Upon beginning of Year	21	25
Upon beginning of Year	22	26
Upon beginning of Year	23	27
Upon beginning of Year	24	28
Upon beginning of Year	25	29
Upon beginning of Year	26	30
and beyond		

**5.1.1** Employees shall accrue vacation leave from their date of hire in a leave eligible position.

**5.1.2** Employees who are eligible for vacation leave and who work less than a full-time schedule shall receive pro-rated leave to reflect his/her normally scheduled workweek.

1           **5.2 Payoff** - Employees shall not be eligible to take or be paid for vacation leave until they  
2 have successfully completed their first six (6) months of County service, and if they leave County  
3 employment prior to successfully completing their first six (6) months of County service, shall forfeit  
4 and not be paid for accrued vacation leave. Employees shall be paid for accrued vacation leave to  
5 their date of separation up to the maximum accrual amount if they have successfully completed their  
6 first six (6) months of County service. Payment shall be the accrued vacation leave multiplied by the  
7 employee's regular rate of pay in effect upon the date of leaving County employment less mandatory  
8 withholdings.

9           **5.3 Scheduling** - The manager/designee shall be responsible for establishing a vacation  
10 schedule in such a manner as to achieve the most efficient functioning of the division.

11           **5.4 Maximum Accrual** - Employees may accrue up to sixty (60) days vacation pro-rated to  
12 reflect their normally scheduled work-day. Employees shall use vacation leave beyond the maximum  
13 accrual amount prior to December 31 of each year. Failure to use vacation leave beyond the  
14 maximum accrual amount will result in forfeiture of the vacation leave beyond the maximum amount  
15 unless the manager/designee has approved a carryover of such vacation leave because of cyclical  
16 workloads, work assignments or other reasons as may be in the best interests of the County.

17           **5.5 Use of Vacation** - Employees shall not use or be paid for vacation leave until it has  
18 accrued and such use or payment is consistent with the provisions of this Article.

19           **5.5.1** No employee shall work for compensation for the County in any capacity during the  
20 time that the employee is on vacation leave.

21           **5.6 Separation** - In cases of separation from County employment by death of an employee  
22 with accrued vacation leave and who has successfully completed his/her first six (6) months of  
23 County service, payment of unused vacation leave up to the maximum accrual amount shall be made  
24 to the employee's estate, or, in applicable cases, as provided for by state law, RCW Title 11.

25           **5.7 Reemployment** - If a regular employee resigns from County employment or is laid off  
26 and subsequently returns to County employment within two (2) years from such resignation or lay  
27 off, as applicable, the employee's prior County service shall be counted in determining the vacation  
28 leave accrual rate under Section 5.1.



1 **ARTICLE 6: SICK LEAVE**

2       **6.1.** Regular, probationary, provisional and term-limited temporary employees shall accrue  
3 sick leave benefits at the rate of 0.04616 hours for each hour in pay status exclusive of overtime;  
4 except that sick leave shall not begin to accrue until the first of the month following the month in  
5 which the employee commenced employment. The employee is not entitled to sick leave if not  
6 previously earned.

7       **6.2.** During the first six (6) months of service in a leave eligible position, employees may, at  
8 the manager's/designee's discretion, use any accrued days of vacation leave as an extension of sick  
9 leave. If an employee does not work a full six (6) months in a leave eligible position, any vacation  
10 leave used for sick leave must be reimbursed to the County upon termination.

11       **6.3.** There shall be no limit to the hours of sick leave benefits accrued by an employee.

12       **6.4.** Separation from or termination of County employment except by reason of retirement or  
13 layoff, shall cancel all sick leave accrued to the employee as of the date of separation or termination.  
14 Should a regular or probationary (who has previously achieved career service status) employee resign  
15 or be laid off and return to County employment within two (2) years, accrued sick leave shall be  
16 restored.

17       **6.5.** Regular or probationary (who has previously achieved career service status) employees  
18 who have successfully completed at least five (5) years of County service and who retire as a result  
19 of length of service or who terminate by reason of death shall be paid, or their estates paid or as  
20 provided for by RCW Title 11, as applicable, an amount equal to thirty-five percent (35%) of their  
21 unused, accumulated sick leave multiplied by the employee's rate of pay in effect upon the date of  
22 leaving County employment less mandatory withholdings.

23       **6.6. Leave Without Pay for Health Reasons:** An employee must use all of his/her sick  
24 leave before taking unpaid leave for his/her own health reasons. If the injury is compensable under  
25 the County's workers compensation program, then the employee has the option to augment or not  
26 augment time loss payments with the use of accrued sick leave.

27       **6.7. Leave Without Pay for Family Reason:** For a leave for family reasons, the employee  
28 will choose at the start of the leave whether the particular leave would be paid or unpaid; but, when

an employee chooses to take paid leave for family reasons s/he may set aside a reserve of up to eighty (80) hours of accrued sick leave.

**6.8. Use of Vacation Leave as Sick Leave:** An employee who has exhausted all of his/her sick leave may use accrued vacation leave before going on leave of absence without pay, if approved by his/her manager/designee.

**6.9. Use of Sick Leave:** Accrued sick leave will be used for the following reasons:

**6.9.1.** The employee's bona fide illness or incapacitating injury; provided, that:

**6.9.1.1.** An employee who suffers an occupational illness or is injured on the job may not simultaneously collect sick leave and worker's compensation payments in a total amount greater than the net regular pay of the employee; though an employee who chooses not to augment his/her worker's compensation time loss pay through the use of sick leave will be deemed on unpaid leave status;

**6.9.1.2.** An employee who chooses to augment workers compensation payments with the use of accrued sick leave will notify the workers compensation office in writing at the beginning of the leave;

**6.9.1.3.** An employee may not collect sick leave and worker's compensation time loss payments for physical incapacity due to any injury or occupational illness which is directly traceable to employment other than with the County.

**6.9.2.** Exposure to contagious diseases and resulting quarantine.

**6.9.3.** A female employee's temporary disability caused by or contributed to by pregnancy and childbirth.

**6.9.4.** The employee's medical, ocular or dental appointments, provided that the employee's manager/designee has approved the scheduling of sick leave for such appointments.

**6.9.5.** To care for the employee's eligible child if the child has an illness or health condition which requires treatment or supervision from the employee;

**6.9.6.** To care for other family members, if:

**6.9.6.1.** The employee has been employed by the County for twelve (12) months or more and has worked a minimum of one thousand forty (1040) hours in the preceding

twelve (12) months.

**6.9.6.2.** The family member is the employee's spouse or domestic partner, the employee's child, a child of the employee's spouse or domestic partner, the parent of the employee, employee's spouse or domestic partner or an individual who stands or stood in loco parentis to the employee, the employee's spouse or domestic partner; and,

**6.9.6.3.** The reason for the leave is one of the following:

**6.9.6.3.1.** The birth of a son or daughter and care of the newborn child, or placement with the employee of a son or daughter for adoption or foster care, if the leave is taken within twelve (12) months of the birth, adoption or placement;

**6.9.6.3.2.** The care of the employee's child or child of the employee's spouse or domestic partner whose illness or health condition requires treatment or supervision by the employee; or

**6.9.6.3.3.** Care of a family member who suffers from a serious health condition.

**6.10. Unpaid Leave:** An employee who has been employed by the County for twelve (12) months or more and has worked a minimum of one thousand forty (1040) hours in the preceding twelve (12) months, may take a total of up to eighteen (18) work weeks unpaid leave for his or her own serious health condition, and for family reasons as provided in Sections 6.10.5 and 6.10.6 combined, within a twelve (12) month period. The leave may be continuous, which is consecutive days or weeks, or intermittent, which is taken in whole or partial days as needed. Intermittent leave is subject to the following conditions:

**6.10.1. Birth or Adoption:** When a leave is taken after the birth or placement of a child for adoption or foster care, an employee may take leave intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule only if authorized by the employee's manager/designee.

**6.10.2. Reduced Schedules:** An employee make take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule when medically necessary due to a serious health condition of the employee or family member of the employee; and

**6.10.3. Temporary Transfer:** If an employee requests intermittent leave or leave

on a reduced leave schedule under Section 6.11.2 that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the manager/designee may require the employee to transfer temporarily to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified and that has equivalent pay and benefits and that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the regular position of the employee.

**6.10.4. Concurrent Time:** Use of donated leave will run concurrently with the eighteen (18) workweek family medical leave entitlement.

**6.10.5. Insurance Premiums:** The County will continue its contribution toward health care during any unpaid leave taken under Section 6.11.

**6.10.6. Return to Work from Unpaid Leave:** An employee who returns from unpaid family or medical leave within the time provided in this Article is entitled, subject to layoff provisions, to:

**6.10.6.1.** The same position he/she held when the leave commenced; or

**6.10.6.2.** A position with equivalent status, benefits, pay and other terms and conditions of employment; and

**6.10.6.3.** The same seniority accrued before the date on which the leave commenced.

**6.10.7. Failure to Return to Work:** Failure to return to work by the expiration date of the leave of absence may be cause for removal and result in termination of the employee from County service.

**6.11. Provider Certification:** The manager/designee and employee is responsible for the proper administration of the sick leave benefit. Verification from a licensed health care provider may be reasonably required to substantiate the health condition of the employee or family member for leave requests.

**6.12. Definition of Child:** For purposes of this Article, a child means a biological, adopted or foster child, a step child, a legal ward or a child of an employee standing in loco parentis to the child, who is: under eighteen (18) years of age; or is eighteen (18) years of age or older and incapable of self care because of mental or physical disability.

**6.13 Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association Plan:** In lieu of the remuneration for

1 unused sick leave at retirement, the manager of the human resources division, or the manager's  
2 designee, may, with equivalent funds, provide eligible employees with a voluntary employee  
3 beneficiary association plan that provides for reimbursement of retiree and other qualifying medical  
4 expenses.

5                   **6.13.1** The manager shall adopt procedures for the implementation of all voluntary  
6 employee  
7 beneficiary association plans. At a minimum, the procedures shall provide that:

8                   **(1)** each group of employees hold an election to decide whether to implement  
9 a voluntary employee beneficiary association plan for a defined group of employees. The  
10 determination of the majority of voting employees in a group shall bind the remainder. Elections for  
11 represented employees shall be conducted by the appropriate bargaining representative;

12                   **(2)** the manager has discretion to determine the scope of employee groups  
13 voting on whether to adopt a voluntary employee beneficiary association plan. The manager shall  
14 consult with bargaining representatives and elected officials in determining the scope of voting  
15 groups;

16                   **(3)** any voluntary employee beneficiary association plan implemented in  
17 accordance with this subsection complies with federal tax law. Disbursements in accordance with  
18 this subsection shall be exempt from withholdings, to the extent permitted by law; and

19                   **(4)** employees shall forfeit remuneration under subsections 1 and 2 of this  
20 section if the employee belongs to a group that has voted to implement a voluntary employee  
21 beneficiary association plan and the employee fails to execute forms that are necessary to the proper  
22 administration of the plan within twelve months of retirement by reason of length of service, as  
23 defined in subsection 1 of this subsection.

**ARTICLE 7: PAID LEAVES**

**7.1 Donation of Leaves**

**7.1.1 Vacation leave hours**

**A. Approval Required** - An employee eligible for paid leave may donate a portion of his/her accrued vacation leave to another employee eligible for leave benefits. Such donation will occur upon written request to and approval of the donating and receiving employee's department director(s), except that requests for vacation donation made for the purposes of supplementing the sick leave benefits of the receiving employee will not be denied unless approval would result in a departmental hardship for the receiving department.

**B. Limitations** - The number of hours donated will not exceed the donor's accrued vacation credit as of the date of the request. No donation of vacation hours will be permitted where it would cause the employee receiving the transfer to exceed his/her maximum vacation accrual.

**C. Return of Unused Donations** - Donated vacation leave hours must be used within ninety (90) calendar days following the date of donation. Donated hours not used within ninety (90) days or due to the death of the receiving employee will revert to the donor. Donated vacation leave hours will be excluded from vacation leave payoff provisions contained in this Article. For purposes of this Article, the first hours used by an employee will be accrued vacation leave hours.

**7.1.2 Sick leave hours.**

**A. Written Notice Required** - An employee eligible for paid leave may donate a portion of his/her accrued sick leave to another employee eligible for leave benefits upon written notice to the donating and receiving employee's department director(s).

**B. Minimum Leave Balance Required (Donor)** - No donation will be permitted unless the donating employee's sick leave accrual balance immediately subsequent to the donation is one hundred (100) hours or more. No employee may donate more than twenty-five (25) hours of his/her accrued sick leave in a calendar year.

**C. Return of Unused Donations** - Donated sick leave hours must be used within ninety (90) calendar days. Donated hours not used within ninety (90) days or due to the death of the receiving employee will revert to the donor. Donated sick leave hours will be excluded from the

sick leave payoff provisions contained in this Agreement, and sick leave restoration provisions contained in this Agreement. For purposes of this Article, the first hours used by an employee will be accrued sick leave hours.

**7.1.3 No Solicitation** - All donations of vacation and sick leave made under this Article are strictly voluntary. An employee is prohibited from soliciting, offering or receiving monetary or any other compensation or benefits in exchange for donating vacation or sick leave hours.

**7.1.4 Conversion Rate** - All vacation and sick leave hours donated will be converted to a dollar value based on the donor's straight time hourly rate at the time of donation. Such dollar value will then be divided by the receiving employee's hourly rate to determine the actual number of hours received. Unused donated vacation and sick leave will be reconverted based on the donor's straight time hourly rate at the time of reconversion.

**7.2 Leave - Organ Donors** - The manager/designee will allow an employee eligible for paid leave who is voluntarily participating as a donor in life-giving or life-saving procedures such as, but not limited to, bone marrow transplants, kidney transplants, or blood transfusions up to five (5) days paid leave provided;

**7.2.1 Notification** - The employee gives the manager/designee reasonable advance notice of the need to take time off from work for the donation of bone marrow, a kidney, or other organs or tissue where there is a reasonable expectation that the employee's failure to donate may result in serious illness, injury, pain or the eventual death of the identified recipient.

**7.2.2 Provider Certification** - The employee provides written proof from an accredited medical institution, organization or individual as to the need for the employee to donate bone marrow, a kidney, or other organs or tissue or to participate in any other medical procedure where the participation of the donor is unique or critical to a successful outcome.

**7.2.3 Time off Subject to Agreement** - Time off from work for the purpose set out above in excess of five (5) working days will be subject to the terms of this Agreement.

### **7.3 Bereavement Leave**

**7.3.1** An employee eligible for paid leave will be entitled to three (3) working days of bereavement leave a year, per occurrence, due to death of a member of his/her immediate family.

1           **7.3.2 Use of Sick Leave in Lieu of Bereavement Leave** - An employee eligible for leave  
2 who has exhausted his/her bereavement leave, will be entitled to use sick leave in the amount of three  
3 (3) working days for each instance when death occurs to a member of the employee's immediate  
4 family.

5           **7.3.3** In the application of any of the foregoing provisions, when a holiday or regular day off  
6 falls within the prescribed period of absence, it will not be charged against the employee's sick leave  
7 account nor bereavement leave credit.

8           **7.3.4 Family Defined** - Immediate family means, as used in this Article: spouse, domestic  
9 partner, grandparent, parent, child, sibling, child-in-law, parent-in-law, grandchild of the employee,  
10 employee's spouse or employee's domestic partner.

11           **7.4 School Volunteers** - An employee eligible for paid leave will be allowed the use of up to  
12 three (3) days of sick leave each year to allow the employee to perform volunteer services at the  
13 school attended by the employee's child; provided, an employee requesting to use sick leave for this  
14 purpose will submit such request in writing specifying the name of the school and the nature of the  
15 volunteer services to be performed.

16           **7.5 Jury Duty** - An employee eligible for paid leave who is ordered on a jury will be entitled  
17 to his/her regular County pay; provided, that fees for such jury duty are deposited, exclusive of  
18 mileage, with the Finance & Business Operations Division of the Department of Executive Services.  
19 The employee will report back to their manager/designee when dismissed from jury service.

20           **7.6 Leave Examinations** - An employee eligible for paid leave will be entitled to necessary  
21 time off with pay for the purpose of participating in County qualifying or promotional examinations.  
22 This will include time required to complete any required interviews.

23           **7.7 Military Leave** - A leave of absence for active military duty or active military training duty  
24 will be granted to eligible employees in accordance with applicable provisions of state and/or federal  
25 law; provided, that a request for such leave shall be submitted to the manager/designee in writing by the  
26 employee and accompanied by a validated copy of military orders ordering such active duty or active  
27 training duty.



**ARTICLE 8: MEDICAL, DENTAL & LIFE INSURANCE**

**8.1** The County presently participates in group medical, dental and life insurance programs. The County agrees to maintain the level of benefits as currently provided by these plans and pay premiums as currently practiced, during the life of this Agreement unless modified by the Joint Labor/Management Insurance Committee.

**8.2** The County agrees to continue the Joint Labor-Management Insurance Committee comprised of representatives from the County and its labor unions. The function of the Committee shall be to review, study and make recommendations relative to existing medical, dental and life insurance programs.

**8.3** The Union and County agree to incorporate changes to employee insurance benefits which the County may implement as a result of the agreement of the Joint Labor-Management Insurance Committee referenced in Section 8.2 above.

**ARTICLE 9: WAGE RATES**

**9.1 COLA** - Effective January 1, of each year of the Agreement (years 2008, 2009 and 2010), the base wage rates for employees shall be increased by 90% of the CPI-W All Cities Index (September to September) with a maximum increase of six (6) percent but not less than two (2) percent.

**9.2 Step Movement/Merit** - Employees covered by this Agreement shall be subject to the County's ten step plan (truncated) and merit system as provided under KCC 3.15.020, as amended.

**9.3 Professional Registration** – To encourage and support professional development and to provide for the employment of qualified personnel in appropriate classifications, the County will provide compensation for professional licenses and certifications according to the following formula:

If the employee is required to hold the license/certification for her/his job, compensation shall be paid at an additional one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month. If the license/certification is not required but is related to the employee's work, they will receive an additional fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month. It is understood that the employee is responsible for costs and fees of obtaining and renewing such licenses.

Applicable designations or professional licenses: Washington State professional license in the branches of Civil, Electrical, Hydraulic, Industrial, Mechanical, Metallurgical, Sanitary, Structural, Architectural, Land Surveying, Geology or Illumination; a registered architect's license or a professional designation of CPA, MAI, RM, SSA, CPM or SR/WA; International Conference of Building Officials Certifications in Building Inspection, Landscape Architecture, Certified Floodplain Manager, Mechanical, Plumbing, Combination Inspector, Fire and Plans Examiner.

**ARTICLE 10: HOURS OF WORK**

**10.1 Schedules** - The establishment of work schedules is vested solely within the purview of the County and may be changed from time to time. It is the policy of the County to actively promote alternative and flexible work schedules.

**10.2 FLSA** - Employees covered by this bargaining unit are employed in a bona fide executive, administrative or professional capacity and are in turn exempt from overtime payments under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act. Bargaining unit employees shall be covered under the King County Executive Leave Pay and Leave Practices for Executive Administration and Professional Employees policy (Executive Policy PER 8-1-1) and modifications thereto, and are expected to work the hours necessary to satisfactorily perform their jobs.

**10.2.1** Regular employees will receive at least three (3) days of Executive Leave during the calendar year provided the employee is in an eligible position on January 1.

1 **ARTICLE 11: CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

2       **11.1** The Union and the County recognize the importance of settling issues in a fair and  
3 responsible manner at the lowest possible level of supervision and to use conflict resolution methods  
4 whenever possible.

5       **11.2 Grievance Definition** - An issue raised by an employee regarding the interpretation  
6 and/or application of the express written terms of this Agreement. A grievance, to be timely, must be  
7 presented in writing to the employee's supervisor within ten (10) workdays of the occurrence or the  
8 employee's knowledge of the event. The grievance must contain a description of the event, when the  
9 event took place and/or when the employee had knowledge of the event, the Articles allegedly  
10 violated, and the remedy sought.

11       **11.3 Grievance Steps**

12       **11.3.1 Division Manager** - The Manager shall have fifteen (15) workdays from the receipt of  
13 the grievance to address the issue with the employee. The supervisor shall respond to the grievance  
14 in writing within fifteen (15) workdays following the meeting with the employee. If the grievance is  
15 not resolved, it may be referred in writing within ten (10) workdays following the date of the  
16 Manager's written response to the Director of the Human Resources Division (HRD)/designee. If  
17 the grievance is not pursued to the Director of HRD/designee within the ten (10) workdays, it shall be  
18 presumed resolved.

19       **11.3.2 Director of HRD** - The director/designee will have thirty (30) workdays from receipt  
20 of the grievance to address the issue with the employee. The director/designee shall respond to the  
21 grievance in writing within fifteen (15) workdays following the meeting with the employee. If the  
22 grievance is not resolved, it may be referred in writing within ten (10) workdays following the date of  
23 the director/designee's written response to mediation/arbitration. If the grievance is not pursued to  
24 mediation/arbitration within ten (10) workdays, it will be presumed resolved.

25       **11.3.3 Mediation/Arbitration** - Mediation shall be the last step for grievances that are not  
26 timely. The Director of HRD/designee and the Union shall select a third disinterested party to serve  
27 as the mediator/arbitrator. In the event they are unable to agree, then the mediator/arbitrator shall be  
28 selected from a list of at least seven (7) names furnished by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation

1 Service (FMCS) or American Arbitration Association (AAA), whichever source is mutually  
2 acceptable. The mediator/arbitrator shall be selected from the list by each party alternately striking a  
3 name from the list until one name remains. The Union shall have the first strike from the list and the  
4 parties will rotate the first strike for each grievance. The mediation process will proceed with the  
5 parties making a good faith attempt to reconcile their differences. A mediated grievance, if timely,  
6 will move to the arbitration phase only after the mediator and one of the two parties to the dispute  
7 declare impasse. A formal arbitration hearing on timely grievances can be held at the request of  
8 either party without going through the mediation process. The mediator cannot serve as the  
9 arbitrator.

10 **11.4** The arbitrator shall have no power to change, alter, detract from, or add to the  
11 provisions of this Agreement, but shall have the power only to apply and interpret the provisions of  
12 this written Agreement in reaching a decision on the issue.

13 **11.5** No matter may be arbitrated which the County, by law, has no authority over or has no  
14 authority to change.

15 **11.6** There shall be no strikes, cessation of work or lockout during mediation or arbitration.

16 **11.7** Each party to a mediation/arbitration proceeding shall bear the full costs of its  
17 representatives, including legal representatives, and witnesses regardless of the outcome of the  
18 mediation or arbitration. The mediator's/arbitrator's fees and expenses and any court reporter's fee  
19 and expenses agreed to by the Union and the County shall be borne equally by both parties.

20 **11.8 Exclusive Procedure** - Selection of this conflict resolution procedure for the resolution  
21 of a grievance shall preclude the use of any other procedure in resolving the matter at issue.

22 **11.9 Time Limits** - Time limits may be extended by written consent of the parties.

23 **11.10 Unfair Labor Practice (ULP)** -The parties agree that thirty (30) days prior to filing a  
24 ULP complaint with the PERC, the complaining party will notify the other party, in writing, meet,  
25 and make a good faith attempt to resolve the issue unless the deadline for filing with PERC would  
26 otherwise pass.

27 **11.11 Temporaries** - Probationary, provisional, temporary and term-limited temporary  
28 employees are employed at will and can not use the procedures of this Article to grieve or otherwise

1 appeal a job separation action of any kind.

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**ARTICLE 12: REDUCTION IN FORCE**

**12.1 Order of layoff** - In the event of a reduction in force due to lack of work, lack of funds or considerations of efficiency, layoffs shall be by position. The positions to be laid-off shall be at the sole discretion of management. In lieu of laying off a regular employee, the Director of the HRD may reassign such employee to a comparable, vacant position, when the Director of HRD determines such reassignment to be in the best interest of the County.

**12.1.1** The County will attempt to place a regular employee subject to layoff in accordance with the County's Workforce Management Program, as amended.

**12.2 Recall** - A regular employee who is laid off will have recall rights to his/her previous position for two years from the date of layoff. An employee retains his/her recall rights even if he/she accepts another position with the County. An employee who is laid off shall forfeit his/her recall rights if he/she refuses a recall.

**12.2.1 Notice of Recall** - An employee will have ten (10) days from the date the notice of recall is sent by certified mail in which to notify the County of whether he/she will accept the position. The County will consider the employee's failure to notify the County within ten (10) days as a refusal; however, if the County determines that there are warranting circumstances, it may accept a late notice from an employee. Notices will be in writing. It is the employee's responsibility to keep the County informed of his/her current address.

**12.2.2 Reinstatement** - An employee recalled within two (2) years from the time of layoff will have any forfeited sick leave accruals and seniority restored and adjusted for the period of layoff, and vacation leave accrual rate restored.

**ARTICLE 13: WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASSIFICATION**

**13.1** It is understood by the parties that an employee may be assigned in writing to perform the preponderance of the duties of a higher classification by the division manager/designee.

**13.2** An employee assigned in writing by his/her division manager/designee to a higher classification will be paid at the first step of the range assigned to the higher classification or at a step that most closely approximates five percent (5%) above the employee's salary prior to the assignment, whichever is higher.

**13.3** The County may assign an employee to perform the work of a higher classification for up to a full workweek without additional compensation. If the employee is assigned to perform the work of the higher classification for a full workweek or more the employee will be paid for all time performing the work of the higher classification in accordance with Section 13.2.

**13.4** If the employee is required to work out-of-class for more than sixty (60) days, the Union may request a meeting for the sole purpose of clarifying why the employee is still working out-of-class.



1 **ARTICLE 14: UNION REPRESENTATION AND EMPLOYEE RIGHTS**

2 **14.1 Union Representation**

3 **14.1.1** Authorized representatives of the Union may, after notifying the County official in  
4 charge, visit the work location of employees covered by this Agreement at any reasonable time for  
5 the purpose of member representation.

6 **14.1.2** The Executive Director and/or Union Representative shall have the right to appoint  
7 stewards. The Union shall provide the County with the names of stewards so appointed. The  
8 steward will be allowed reasonable time during working hours to see that the provisions of the  
9 Agreements are observed.

10 **14.1.3** Written policies, rules, or directives affecting the terms and conditions of this  
11 Agreement shall be provided to the Union upon request.

12 **14.2 Employee Rights**

13 **14.2.1** The County may reprimand, suspend, demote or discharge a regular employee for just  
14 cause.

15 **14.2.2** If at any level the County determines to bring disciplinary action against an employee  
16 for any reason, the employee shall be apprised of his/her rights of appeal and representation as  
17 provided for in the Conflict Resolution procedures under Article 12 of this Agreement.

18 **14.2.3** Members of the bargaining unit are entitled to meal compensation pursuant to King  
19 County Code 3.24.080.

1 **ARTICLE 15: MISCELLANEOUS**

2 **15.1 Drug Free Workplace** - The Union agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state  
3 and county regulations and ordinances with regard to the drug free workplace.

4 **15.2 Training** - The County recognizes the mutual benefit to be attained by affording  
5 training opportunities to employees and shall provide information and access to training opportunities  
6 for its employees, within budgeted appropriations. The training opportunities shall be guided by, but  
7 not limited to the overall objectives of encouraging and motivating employees to improve their  
8 personal capabilities in performance of specific tasks.

9 **15.3 Equal Employment Opportunity** - The County or the Union shall not unlawfully  
10 discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, creed, marital  
11 status, sex, sexual orientation or on the presence of a sensory, mental or physical disability. Parties  
12 to agree to specific remedy language.

13 **15.4 Bulletin Boards** - The County agrees to permit the Union to post on County bulletin  
14 boards announcement of meetings, election of officers, and any other Union material, providing there  
15 is sufficient space, beyond what is required by the County for "normal" operations.

16 **15.5 Biweekly Payroll** – If during the life of this Agreement the Council or Executive adopts  
17 a biweekly payroll plan, the parties agree to adopt the plan.

18 **15.6. Employee Safety During Work Stoppages** - No member of this bargaining unit shall  
19 be required to cross a legal picket line sanctioned by the King County Labor Council (this section  
20 does not apply to informational pickets). This section shall not apply in situations that pose an  
21 imminent threat to structures or human health and/or safety. An employee encountering a picket line  
22 during the course of her/his duties shall contact her/his supervisor for work instructions.

1 **ARTICLE 16: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2       **16.1 Savings Clause** - Should any part hereof or any provision herein contained be rendered  
3 or declared invalid by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted state or federal legislation or by  
4 any decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidation of such part or portions of this  
5 Agreement shall not invalidate the remaining portions thereof; provided, however, upon such  
6 invalidation, the parties agree to meet and negotiate such parts or provisions affected. The remaining  
7 parts or provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

8       **16.1.1** The County and the Union and the employees covered by this Agreement are  
9 governed by applicable county ordinances, and said ordinances are paramount except where they  
10 conflict with a provision of this Agreement.

11       **16.2 Work Stoppages and Employer Protection** - The County and the Union agree that the  
12 public interest requires efficient and uninterrupted performance of all county services and to this end  
13 pledge their best efforts to avoid or eliminate any conduct contrary to this objective. Specifically, the  
14 Union shall not cause or condone any work stoppage, including any strike, slowdown, or refusal to  
15 perform any customarily assigned duties, sick leave absence which is not bona fide, or other  
16 interference with county functions by employees under this Agreement, and should same occur, the  
17 Union agrees to take appropriate steps to end such interference. Any concerted action by any  
18 employees in the Union shall be deemed a work stoppage if any of the above activities have  
19 occurred.

20       **16.2.1** Any employee participation in such work stoppage or in other ways committing an act  
21 prohibited in this Article shall be considered absent without authorized leave and shall be considered  
22 to have resigned.

**ARTICLE 17: DURATION**

**17.1** This Agreement shall become effective upon full and final ratification and approval by all formal requisite means by the Council and shall be effective through December 31, 2010.

**17.2** Contract negotiations for the succeeding contract may be initiated by either party providing to the other written notice of its intention to do so prior to August 1, 2010.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007

By: \_\_\_\_\_

King County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Raymond R. Goforth  
Union Representative  
International Federation of Professional and  
Technical Engineers, Local 17, AFL-CIO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date